

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An isolated peptide with an amino acid sequence consisting of 8-~~40~~¹⁰⁰ amino acids ~~and comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 35-66, wherein the peptide binds to human Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Receptor-3 (VEGFR-3), and~~

~~wherein the amino acid sequence includes eight amino acids satisfying the formula: X₁X₂X₃X₄X₅X₆X₇X₈ (SEQ ID NO: 32), wherein X₁ through X₈ are amino acid residues, wherein~~

~~the amino acid residue at X₁ is a glycine residue or a conservative substitution thereof;~~

~~the amino acid residue at X₂ is a tyrosine residue or a conservative substitution thereof;~~

~~the amino acid residue at X₃ is a tryptophan residue or a conservative substitution thereof;~~

~~the amino acid residue at X₄ is a leucine residue or a conservative substitution thereof;~~

~~the amino acid residue at X₅ is a threonine residue or a conservative substitution thereof;~~

~~the amino acid residue at X₆ is an isoleucine residue or a conservative substitution thereof;~~

~~the amino acid residue at X₇ is a tryptophan residue or a conservative substitution thereof; and~~

~~the amino acid residue at X₈ is a glycine residue or a conservative substitution thereof, and wherein the peptide comprises no more than 3 conservative amino acid substitutions introduced at positions X₁-X₈.~~

2. (Previously presented) The isolated peptide according to claim 1, further comprising amino- and carboxy-terminal cysteine residues.

3.-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) The isolated peptide according to claim 1, comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 35-43 and 55-66~~Y₁GYWLTIWGY₂ (SEQ ID NO: 34)~~, wherein ~~Y₁ and Y₂ are amino acids.~~

13. (Original) The isolated peptide of claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises the sequence CGYWLTIWGC (SEQ ID NO: 35).

14.-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) An isolated peptide according to claim 1-~~or 21~~, wherein said peptide further comprises an intramolecular bond between amino acid residues to form a cyclic peptide.

25. (Previously presented) The isolated peptide according to claim 24, wherein the peptide comprises amino- and carboxy-terminal cysteines, and the intramolecular bond comprises a disulfide bond between the cysteines.

26. (Currently amended) The isolated peptide according to claim 1-~~or 21~~, wherein said peptide inhibits Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor C (VEGF-C) binding to the human VEGFR-3.

27. (Currently amended) The isolated peptide according to claim 1-~~or 21~~, further comprising a cytotoxic agent, or a label attached to the peptide.

28. (Previously presented) The peptide according to claim 27, wherein the cytotoxic agent comprises a radioisotope.

29. (Previously presented) The peptide according to claim 27, wherein the cytotoxic agent comprises an anti-neoplastic pro-drug.

30. (Currently amended) A chimeric protein comprising a therapeutic protein amino acid sequence attached to the amino acid sequence of a peptide according to claim 1-~~or~~ 21.

31. (Previously presented) The chimeric protein according to claim 30, wherein the therapeutic protein comprises a tumor necrosis factor.

32. (Currently amended) The peptide according to claim 1-~~or~~ 21 attached to an antibody or fragment thereof.

33. (Currently amended) The isolated peptide of claim 1-~~or~~ 21, wherein said peptide further comprises a modification to increase the circulating *in-vivo* half-life of the peptide in a mammal.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently amended) A peptide dimer comprising first and second peptides according to claim 1-~~or~~ 21.

36. (Previously presented) The peptide dimer according to claim 35, wherein the first and second peptides comprise the same peptide.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently amended) A composition comprising an isolated peptide according to claim 1-~~or 21~~ in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

39.-74. (Cancelled)

75. (Previously presented) The peptide of claim 27 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of a radionuclide, a dye, an enzyme, and an enzyme substrate.

76. (Currently amended) The peptide of claim 1-~~or 21~~ with an amino acid sequence consisting of 8-25 amino acids.

77. (Previously presented) The peptide of claim 12 or claim 13 with an amino acid sequence consisting of 10-25 amino acids.

78. (New) An isolated peptide with an amino acid sequence consisting of 8-40 amino acids and comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 34, wherein the peptide binds to human Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Receptor-3 (VEGFR-3).

79. (New) The isolated peptide according to claim 78, further comprising amino- and carboxy-terminal cysteine residues.

80. (New) The isolated peptide of claim 78 with an amino acid sequence consisting of 8-35 amino acids.

81. (New) The isolated peptide of claim 80 with an amino acid sequence consisting of 10-30 amino acids.

82. (New) An isolated peptide with an amino acid sequence consisting of 8-40 amino acids and comprising the amino acid sequence spanning amino acid residue 2 through amino acid residue 9 of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 35 and 55-58, wherein the peptide binds to human Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Receptor-3 (VEGFR-3).

83. (New) The isolated peptide according to claim 82, further comprising amino- and carboxy-terminal cysteine residues.

84. (New) The isolated peptide of claim 82 with an amino acid sequence consisting of 8-35 amino acids.

85. (New) The isolated peptide of claim 84 with an amino acid sequence consisting of 10-30 amino acids.